



Nine Core Components of Victim Services (cont.)

- Facilitating victim participation in CJS
- Facilitating property return
- Information/referral to community services
- Education for public, CJS personnel, and other service providers about victims' rights and needs

Law Enforcement Roles and Responsibilities

- Orientation to the process
- Provision/referrals: crisis intervention
- Accompaniment to emergency medical services
- Contacting VS provider for support
- Providing information about rights
- Securing property and enhancing safety
- Follow-up contact with victims

Prosecution Roles and Responsibilities

- Orientation to CJS
- Information about CJS
- Notification of case status
- Witness alert programs
- Coordinating witness appearances
- Victim/witness telephone lines
- Court education/accompaniment

Prosecution Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Secure waiting area
- Assistance with compensation
- Coordinating inclusion of VIS
- Employer/landlord/creditor intervention
- Property return
- Intervention and protection for victims who are being intimidated/harassed

Judiciary Roles and Responsibilities

- Courtroom orientation
- Secure waiting areas
- Considering VIS prior to sentencing
- Asking attorneys if they have consulted with victim
- Reasonable measures for victim protection

Judiciary Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Restitution as priority
- Restitution monitoring, collection and disbursement
- Other financial obligations
- Including victim information confidentially in offenders' files to ensure continuity of service

Probation Roles and Responsibilities

- VIS as component of PSI
- VIS (allocation, written, audio, video)
- Victim safety and security
- Input re: community service
- Determine appropriate restitution and realistic schedule for payment and disbursement

Probation Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Supervising victim/offender programming
- Victim notification re: violations
- Monitoring probations re: victim safety and full compliance with conditions
- Information and referrals to victims
- Participate in multidisciplinary approaches

Institutional Corrections Roles and Responsibilities

- Including victim information in confidential section of offender file
- Protecting confidentiality of victims
- Protection from intimidation/harassment
- Notification of offender status
- Victim/offender programming

Institutional Corrections Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- In some departments, monitoring and disbursing restitution
- Inmate programming commensurate with court orders, i.e. treatment
- Coordinating locations for parole hearings
- Information and referral for victims
- Multidisciplinary efforts

Parole Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide overview of parole process
- VIS (allocation/written/video/audio)
- Victim safety as condition of parole
- Confidential VIS in person before Board
- Continuing/enforcing restitution orders
- Financial considerations of victims reflected in orders

Parole Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Provide information about contact with parole agents and Board
- Information and referrals for victims
- Multidisciplinary efforts

Current Status of Victims' Rights: Four Categories

- Provision of specific victims' rights
- Requirements for victim services or assistance
- Funding mechanisms for services or rights provision
- Victim-oriented CJS reforms

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Victims' Bills of Rights: General Provisions

- Information about rights and services
- Protection
- Notification about case proceedings
- Participatory rights
- Confidentiality
- Speedy trial provisions

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Victims' Bills of Rights: General Provisions (cont.)

- Prompt return of property
- Notoriety-for-profit provisions
- Restitution
- Compensation

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Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990

- Fairness and dignity
- Reasonable protection
- Notification of court proceedings
- Present at proceedings
- Confer with attorney for government
- Restitution
- Information about conviction/release

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Constitutional Amendments

- 33 states currently have amendments (including South Carolina)
- Bi-partisan federal amendment introduced in April 1996, and reintroduced virtually every session since (including 2003, SJR 1).
- Concept of federal amendment endorsed by Bush Administration in April 2002.
- "Justice for All" Act offers a "test" for the need for a federal amendment.
- Movement back toward state amendments.

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